

Masri and Wakil also reviewed the case, the state-
ment said.

Experts to brief Gemayel on assassination attempt

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — President Amin Gemayel Tuesday returned home from visits to Sudan and North Yemen. He is to be briefed on investigation into an attempt to assassinate him by planting a bomb on his plane.

A short presidential palace statement said a Lebanese army helicopter flew Gemayel from Larnaca, Cyprus, to his residence in the Christian suburb of Baabda.

A police spokesman said the nation's top security officials are to brief Gemayel later in the day on the outcome of investigation into the bombing attempt.

The spokesman said six suspects have been rounded up in connection with the failed attempt to assassinate Gemayel, 44, a Maronite Catholic.

A 500-gram (1-pound) charge of TNT was placed under the pilot's seat of a Middle East Airlines Boeing 707 jetliner that was to leave Beirut airport for Larnaca Friday to fly Gemayel to

San'a, North Yemen. The police spokesman, who cannot be named in line with standing regulations, identified the suspects as "MEA maintenance technicians. They are all Lebanese." He did not elaborate.

Gemayel usually travels by military helicopter from the Falangist heartland north east of Beirut to Larnaca and uses MEA jetliners from there to world capitals.

The president has not used Beirut airport in the city's mainly Muslim sector since 1984 when opposition militias wrested control of the capital's western sector from Falangist-led army units.

Beirut airport, surrounded by Shi'ite Muslim slums, is base for MEA, Lebanon's national carrier.

The explosive charge, according to police, was equipped with a "sophisticated pressure fuse that would have detonated it when the plane reaches an altitude of 30,000 feet (9,000 metres)."

Lebanon has been plagued by assassinations, car bombings and gunpoint kidnappings since the civil war broke out in 1975. The conflict has claimed more than 130,000 lives by police count.

Sunni Muslim Prime Minister Rashid Karami was killed in a bomb explosion aboard a Lebanese army helicopter that was flying him from north Lebanon to Beirut on June 1.

Opposition leaders blamed his assassination on the Lebanese Forces Falangist militia alliance, and accused Gemayel of covering up for them.

Gemayel's younger brother, Bashir, who founded and led the Lebanese Forces, was killed on Sept. 14, 1982, in a bomb explosion during a party gathering in Christian east Beirut shortly after he was elected president.

Goulding in Lebanon for peace talks

BEIRUT (Agencies) — U.N. envoy Marrack Goulding, on the second leg of a Middle East tour, arrived in Lebanon Tuesday to discuss peace efforts in the region and the role of U.N. peacekeeping troops in South Lebanon.

Goulding, assistant secretary-general for political affairs, saw Foad Turk, secretary-general of the Foreign Ministry here, soon after he flew in from Tunis.

Official sources said he would discuss with Lebanese officials the kidnapping of U.N. relief workers Swede Jan Stening, 44 and Norwegian William Joergensen, 57, seized by gunmen near the southern city of Sidon on Feb. 5.

Goulding, while in Tunis, conferred with Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and Chadi Kibbi, the Arab League secretary-general, on the Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied territories.

The U.N. envoy, who visited Lebanon last month as part of his efforts to convene an international conference under U.N. auspices to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, will tour Egypt, Jordan, Syria and possibly Israel during the current trip.

Meanwhile the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) announced in Vienna Tuesday that, as a result of the kidnapping of two staff members and the consequent reduction of international staff to a bare minimum for security reasons, it has had to adopt the following measures:

— Temporarily transferring supervision of activities in the Tripoli and Beqaa Valley areas of Lebanon to its Damascus field office; and

— Suspending all other activities in Lebanon requiring direct supervision by international staff.

UNRWA provides services to some 260,000 Palestine refugees living in Lebanon.

Iran pardons 989 prisoners

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's Revolutionary Patriarch, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, pardoned 989 prisoners to mark the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution's rise to power, Tehran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported Tuesday.

The agency said 194 prisoners already have been freed and the sentences on the others commuted. All 989 prisoners were detained in the provinces of Yazd and Isfahan in central Iran, said the agency, monitored in Nicosia. It did not say whether they had been jailed for criminal or political offences.

Khomeini had declared in a speech earlier this month that special parole boards should review the cases of individual prisoners, releasing those who had repented.

Arab villagers shaken by Israeli burial of 4 alive

KFAR SALEM, Occupied West Bank (AP) — Arabs in this West Bank village are traumatised and frightened after four Palestinian youths reported Israeli soldiers used a bulldozer to bury them alive.

"I am afraid. I thought I was going to die," said one of the four, Abdul Latif Mahmoud Ishtiah, 19, shortly after he was questioned Monday by a military investigator. "I dream about it all the time."

The army detained two soldiers Sunday and an official investigation of the Feb. 5 incident opened Monday when Ishtiah was interrogated in a white police van parked on the broken, muddy road just outside the entrance to this community of 4,000.

The four youths claim they were seized by Israeli soldiers after a demonstration in Kfar Salem that turned violent. They claim they were beaten, kicked, and forced to remove rocks from the main road. Finally, they say, they were ordered to lie on the ground and were covered with about 30-40 centimetres of dirt and mud by a bulldozer.

Assam Shafi Taher Ishtiah, 20, from the same family as Abdul Latif, said he spent eight days in the hospital after the burial recovering from numerous cuts and

bruises on both legs. As he lay on a bed in his house here, surrounded by friends and family members, he recounted how four soldiers burst into the house and arrested him.

"They took me to the entrance of the village, beat me with clubs and kicked me," he said, adding that another group of soldiers brought three more youths from the village. "They told us to take the stones from the road. After they were removed, they told us to move them five metres farther."

There were about 40 soldiers in all at the scene, under the command of an officer, Assam Ishtiah said. There also was a Jewish settler, whom the victims accused of complicity.

"The officer took us one at a time and beat us," he said.

The four say they were then ordered to lie on the ground, face down, and the tractor covered them up.

"I didn't know what was going to happen," the youth said. "I thought they would arrest us. I thought they would arrest me and take me to jail."

The soldiers left quickly and neighbours immediately ran to the scene and began digging out the victims, pulling them out after



One of the four youths (centre) buried alive by Israeli soldiers on Feb. 5 visits the site of the incident

several minutes. "Seven men and four women dug up the kids," said Rasmi Said Hamdan, a teacher who witnessed the incident from his home. "They used their bare hands. Two of them (youths) were completely buried and two had their heads sticking out, their mouths full of mud."

The Israelis since have sealed off all roads into the community, blocking them with huge piles of dirt. Villagers said the only two telephones in Kfar Salem have been cut off.

Abu Nidal vows to avenge Limassol victims

BEIRUT (R) — The Palestinian commando group led by Abu Nidal said Monday that three Palestinians killed in a car bomb explosion in Cyprus were members of its organisation.

The Palestinian Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) issued a statement accusing the Israeli secret service Mossad of the killing in the resort of Limassol Sunday. It vowed vengeance.

"We pledge our brothers, our people and comrades to retaliate against the ugly crime carried out by the Zionist Mossad, which led to the killing of three strugglers of our Fatah Movement," said the statement, delivered to an international news agency in west

Beirut.

The statement, typewritten in Arabic, invoked the movement's right to "return the blow and protect its command and struggle from the dangers of these criminal dens. We hope that world public opinion will understand all forms of punishments that we might and should use against the Zionists."

The FRC identified the victims as Mohammad Hassan Buhait (known as Abu Hassan Qasim), Marwan Kayyali, and Mohammad Bassam Al Tamimi.

In Cyprus, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) issued a statement Sunday also blaming Mossad for the blast and saying the victims were senior PLO officials. It gave similar names for all three.

The PLO statement vowed revenge against Israel, but Israeli Ambassador Aharon Lopez denied that the Zionist state was responsible.

The PLO said Kayyali was a member of the Military Council of the Palestinian Revolution, while the other two were officers of the Occupied Homeland Command dealing with affairs in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The FRC said Abu Hassan Qasim had played a major role in the resistance against Israel and "had worked for more than 15 years in the movement with Abu Nidal."

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Habre accuses Libya of preparing for war

N'DJAMENA (R) — President Hissene Habre accused Libya Monday of preparing to attack Chad despite a five-month-old truce over the disputed Aouzou Strip.

Habre told journalists accompanying visiting French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond that he was unable to say when and where Libya would strike again.

"But a number of facts indicate that the Libyans are preparing for war," he added.

He said Libya was massing troops and military equipment along the Aouzou Strip, in western Sudan and at the Maatan As Sarra Air Base in southern Libya.

Libya and Chad last year battled for control of Aouzou, widely believed to be rich in minerals, until agreeing to a ceasefire in September, brokered by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

The giant Maatan As Sarra Base, 100 kilometres inside undisputed Libyan territory, was destroyed by Chad government forces during a lightning attack on Sept. 7 last year but had since been rebuilt, Habre said.

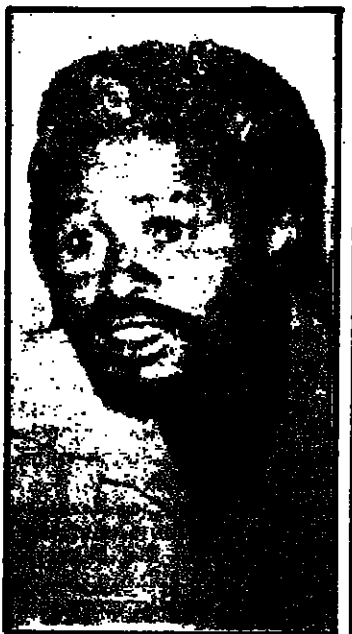
Habre also said Libyan aircraft were overflying northern Chad, "in a deliberate breach" of the OAU truce.

The Chadian leader praised military and economic assistance given to his country by France, Chad's former colonial ruler.

Raimond told reporters France had no intention of modifying its military assistance to Chad, where it has some 1,200 troops and combat aircraft.

"Our aim is to restore peace in Africa," he said, adding that French military aid was purely defensive.

Raimond later left N'Djamena for Mozambique.



Hissene Habre

Iran pardons 989 prisoners

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Khomeini had declared in a speech earlier this month that special parole boards should review the cases of individual prisoners, releasing those who had repented.

Polish biplanes to help Ethiopian drought mission

By Tshegaye Tadesse
Reporter

ADDIS ABABA — Poland has sent five 30-year-old biplanes to assist food to Ethiopia's rugged Shoa province where tens of thousands of people are facing starvation.

Although the capital, Addis Ababa, and the hills around it are a lush green, Ethiopia's drought zone begins only 100 kilometres to the north in the highland plateau in Shoa province.

The area is criss-crossed by plunging gorges up to 1,000 metres deep and in some places people living only a short distance from the capital are unreachable by road.

Relief workers say 240,000 peasants in the region are in danger of starvation following last year's drought and small aircraft which are capable of landing on short dirt airstrips are the only means of getting food to them in time.

Five Soviet-built Antonov AN-1 single-engine biplanes supplied by the Polish government arrived early in February to begin an airlift for the Baptist Mission Relief Organisation.

Jim Bedsole, the Baptist aid coordinator in Ethiopia said they would begin operations soon, following modifications to the planes and the runways they will use.

The situation in Shoa is different from that of war-torn Eritrea and Tigray in northern Ethiopia, where fighting between government forces and rebels has disrupted overland transport, forcing

ing relief agencies to airlift food to drought victims.

There is no security problem in northern Shoa, just a complete lack of passable roads.

Bedsole said the Polish biplanes would shuttle grain supplied by the United States and the European Community to a central depot at Alem Ketema, where the Baptists built an airstrip two years ago.

Carrying 1,500 kilos (3,300 pounds) at a time — enough to feed 100 people for a month — the AN-1s will then ferry the food in short hops to four distribution centres in the immediate area, he told Reuters.

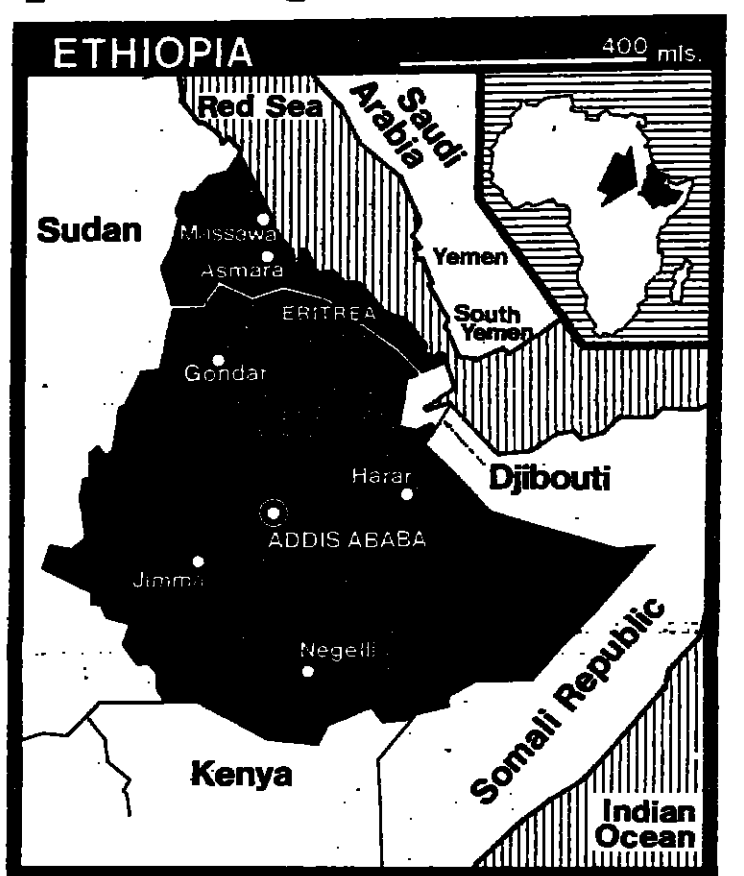
This will mean flying through narrow gorges to deposit their load on the airstrips of villages perched on precipices up to 3,000 metres (10,000 feet) above sea level, Bedsole said.

Alem Ketema is only 90 minutes flying time from Addis Ababa, but Bedsole said a loaded truck would take two days to get there, if it got through at all.

The 180 kilometres road is steep, narrow and poorly surfaced and Bedsole said the section where it plunges into the gorge of the Jema River would be too dangerous for heavy vehicles.

The slightest rain turns the roads of northern Shoa into mud and one loose boulder on a steep section could send a lorry plunging into the abyss.

Bedsole, who has lived in Ethiopia for 18 years, said Baptist missions had already begun distributing food by plane in northern Shoa, using light aircraft supplied by Air Serve, a non-profit-making



U.S. company which specialises in chartering planes for relief operations.

The Polish biplanes would step up the airlift with the aim of distributing 1,200 tonnes of food a month in northern Shoa.

Air Serve's twin-engined planes currently operating in the area would be re-assigned to northern Ethiopia, he added.

Relief workers reckon that up to 1.3 million tonnes of food will have to be distributed to between five and seven million drought victims in northern and eastern Ethiopia this year to prevent a repeat of the 1984/85 famine.

During that crisis, Poland sent a squadron of helicopters to Ethiopia to help with relief work. The flight of AN-1s which has just arrived is on loan for six months.

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JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77111-19		TODAY'S EVENTS		QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT		EMERGENCIES	
PROGRAMME ONE 15:30 Koran 15:50 Programme Review 15:55 Cartoons 16:10 Children's programme 16:40 Horizons of Knowledge 17:10 Isaura Globe TV 17:35 Local series 18:30 Programme on Jordanian universities		EXHIBITIONS ★ The French Cultural Centre presents: "L'urbanisme Parisien" (urban policy in Paris) at the Architectural Gallery (until Feb. 18). ★ Exhibitions entitled "From Gutenberg to Electronics" and "German Woodcuts from 6 Centuries" at the Jordan University of Science and Technology in Irbid (until Feb. 17). ★ "A Photographic and Folk Art Exhibition", organised by the Embassy of Democratic People's Republic of Korea, (until Feb. 18) at Royal Cultural Centre. ★ Art exhibition about the works of German artist Horst Janssen at the Petra Bank Gallery in Wadi Saqra (until Feb. 26). ★ An exhibition of plastic art by the University of Jordan's staff at the University.		OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2) 06:30 Cairo, London (BA) 06:30 Larnaca, Zurich (SR) 06:40 Damascus, Tripoli (PK) 10:20 Cairo (MS) 12:00 Damascus, Sam'a (TY) 13:40 Tripoli (LN) 13:45 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF) 14:00 Sam'a (TY) 15:00 Kuwait (RJ) 16:00 Baghdad (AZ) 16:40 Medina, Jeddah (SV) 23:15 Karachi (PK)		NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Adnan Zaghloul 398140 Dr. Tayseer As-Sa'di 776336 Dr. Faysal Jallouza 624027 Dr. Hussein Haddad 731267 First pharmacy 661912 Ferdous pharmacy 783336 Al Asema pharmacy 637055 Nairoukh pharmacy 623672 Al Salam pharmacy 636730 Yacoub pharmacy 649495 Shmeisani pharmacy 637660 TAXIS: Kayyali taxi 636730 Taxis taxi 644667 Tunex taxi 666467 Ragab taxi 842400 Ragab taxi 736428 Sayel taxi 76131	
PROGRAMME TWO 18:00 Spring Time in Bourges 18:00 Documentary of the Songs of Annual Festival of Bourges 19:00 News in French 19:15 Aujourd'hui En Jordanie 19:20 News in Hebrew 19:45 Sports Magazine 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Charles in Charge 21:00 Documentaire — Well-Being 21:35 Alfred Hitchcock 22:00 News in English 22:20 Hold The Dream		ENGLISH TEACHERS' EVENING ★ An English Teachers' Evening (films for vocabulary acquisition) at 5:00 p.m. at the British Cultural Centre.		ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 09:15 Agaba (RJ) 09:30 Cairo (RJ) 09:30 Damascus (RJ) 09:30 Kuwait (RJ) 09:30 Tripoli (LN) 09:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF) 10:00 Sam'a (TY) 10:00 Kuwait (RJ) 10:00 Baghdad (AZ) 10:00 Medina, Jeddah (SV) 10:00 Karachi (PK) 10:00 London, Geneva (RJ) 10:00 Bangkok (RJ) 10:00 Riyadh (RJ) 10:00 Madrid, Belgrade (RJ) 23:55 Baghdad (RJ)		HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 813813/2 Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6 Al-Khalid Maternity 642412 Jabal Amman Maternity 642562 Malhas, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shmeisani 664714 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 667279 The Islamic, Abadi 6612737 Al-Abdi, Abadi 661646 Al-Bashir, J. Asrafi 7771013 Al-Bashir, J. Asrafi 7771126 Army, Marfa 8916115 Queen Alia Hospital 6024030 Oversas calls 674135	
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VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1290 & SW 7300, 9505, 11740, 11925 and 1210 KHz		BOOK EXHIBITION ★ A book exhibition at the Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle, from 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.		DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 07:00 Agaba (RJ) 11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ) 11:30 Athens (RJ) 12:00 Geneva, London (RJ) 12:30 Cairo (RJ) 12:30 Riyadh (RJ) 12:30 Kuwait (RJ) 12:30 Tripoli (LN) 12:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF) 12:30 Sam'a (TY) 12:30 Kuwait (RJ) 12:30 Baghdad (AZ) 12:30 Medina, Jeddah (SV) 12:30 Karachi (PK) 12:30 London, Geneva (RJ) 12:30 Bangkok (RJ) 12:30 Riyadh (RJ) 12:30 Madrid, Belgrade (RJ) 23:55 Baghdad (RJ)		MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in ffs per kg Apple (French) 420 / 360 Apple (green) 370 / 300 Banana 320 / 300 Banana (Mukammal) 300 / 240 Beans 320 / 460 Beans (broad) 340 / 280 Cabbage 150 / 100 Carrot 230 / 170 Carrot (black) 230 / 170 Carrot (yellow) 230 / 170 Cauliflower (white) 170 / 120 Cauliflower (black) 230 / 170 Dates (dry) 900 / 800 Eggplant (large) 100 / 60 Gadik 200 / 140 Grapefruit 130 / 100 Lemon 120 / 80 Mandarin 270 / 220 Marrow 230 / 160 Onion (green) 230 / 160 Onion (dry) 120 / 80 Oranges (Abu surra) 210 / 180 Oranges (Shammoudi) 320 / 260 Pepper (hot) 400 / 330 Pepper (sweet) 360 / 300 Radish 140 / 100 Spinach 70 / 50 Spinach 130 / 90 Turnip 140 / 100	

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No by-passing the Palestinians

By Yehuda Litani

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post

FOR MORE THAN two months the Palestinians in the territories and East Jerusalem have been practically forcing the Israeli army to play by their rules. Dr. Meron Benvenisti calls it "the shepherds' war." We seem to be going back three or four thousand years to biblical times, using the same basic weapons — clubs and stones — as shepherds used in those days.

In its first stage, this war was between the Palestinian protesters and the soldiers. There was no doubt that once the minister of defence gave the green light to the army to beat the protesters ("no one ever died of beating"), brutalities had to follow.

The brutal acts being committed by Israeli soldiers in two villages near Tulkarm that we were shown on *Mabat* on Wednesday night weren't by any means the first committed by the army during the last two months. Similar acts were being committed in refugee camps in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and were reported in this newspaper.

The minister of defence should know that the use of force has no boundaries, and that what are euphemistically called "irregular acts" may become regular as protests continue.

A senior army officer told me this week:

"I am frightened of the grave consequences of our present policy in the territories. We allow them to beat and shoot civilians. Palestinians, it's true, but civilians. I don't know what it is doing to their souls, what will become of them in the future."

"It is very bad that we, the IDF, have got into this mess. We trained our soldiers to fight wars, to defend the borders, and now we are doing the work of policemen — or more accurately, we are riot squads."

It was only a question of time before the second stage of this shepherds' war started: Israeli settlers joining the battle against

the Palestinians. Indeed, the relative absence of action by the settlers in the first month of the riots was quite a surprise, although there were at least two cases of Palestinian youths being killed by settlers in the course of the second month. But as of the last two weeks, groups among the settlers have decided to take action, sometimes even strong, against the protesters.

It started with a response to stone-throwing and Molotov cocktails, and went on with "retaliatory actions" of smashing windows and cutting car tyres at neighbouring Arab villages and towns.

During the 1970s and the beginning of the 1980s, vigilante actions were committed by Israeli settlers. The most notorious was that against the three Palestinian

mayors, carried out by what was known as "the settlers' underground."

Who knows if similar and even worse actions might not be committed by Israeli settlers as the protests continue and they think that their very existence is being threatened?

Prior to December 1987, the army was not allowed to beat civilians. If it was done — and it was — it was usually a private initiative, unauthorised by senior officers. Since the latest protests began it has become "legal." This sets an example to some settlers, who have been waiting for a long time for the green light "to show the Islamists who is the real ruler of Eretz Yisrael."

The third stage of the shepherds' war may come sooner than we think. It is the stage of retaliation by ordinary Israeli citizens, not only settlers, to the stones and the Molotov cocktails. In East Talpuz in Jerusalem,

for instance, how long will it take the residents to retaliate? How many times can they hold their breath in front of their broken windows? In East Talpuz there are 10 times as many inhabitants as there are in the surrounding Palestinian villages. One of these days they may decide that they have had too much, and that they cannot count on the police to try to restore normal life in their neighbourhood.

The only way to prevent the shepherds' war from becoming a savage war of survival, with soldiers, settlers and ordinary citizens participating in it, is to stop ignoring the Palestinians. The present Israeli leadership does all it can to prevent any contact with the Palestinian leadership, in an attempt to bypass the real problem.

The trio of Yitzhak Shamir, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres remind one of that other trio who see no evil, hear no evil and

speak no evil.

Shamir is convinced that peace could be achieved without territorial compromise. His preferred partners for negotiations are the Americans, the Jordanians and the Egyptians. His only solution is the autonomy as offered in the Camp David accord. But neither the Jordanians nor the Egyptians want to be involved in such direct negotiations, and they have said so over and over again.

Rabin says there is no real Palestinian leadership in the territories, and therefore there is nobody to talk to at the moment. Peres says that peace can be restored through the Jordanians, not the Palestinians.

As long as this unholy trinity turn a deaf ear to the authentic voices among the Palestinians, the shepherds' war will continue, and perhaps escalate even further.

We cannot choose our partners

at the negotiating table, nor can we choose our neighbours or our enemies. If elections to an autonomous council are held this year, or even next year, who will be elected? Mostly PLO supporters and some Muslim fundamentalists. With this council Israel will, according to the new American initiative, have to discuss ways and means for a permanent solution.

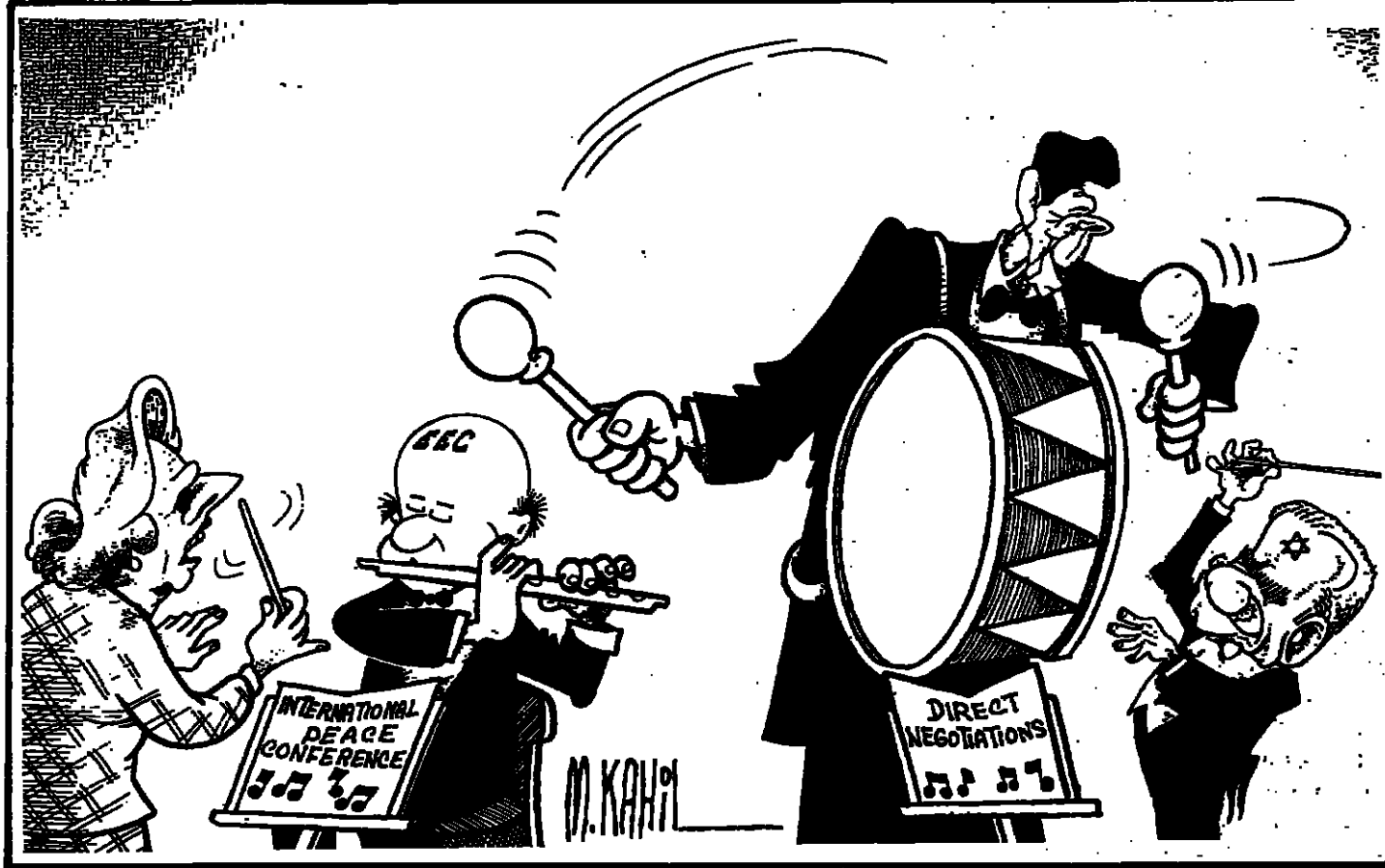
Our problem in Israel is that we cannot face the truth. We cannot admit the fact that it is the PLO that represents the vast majority of Palestinians in the territories and abroad. Jordan, Egypt and maybe Syria could serve as a mediator between Israel and the PLO, but as long as we ignore the PLO, the savage war between Jews and Arabs in this country will continue.

For most of us, the PLO means terror and bloodshed, animosity and hatred. But it is time for us to understand that trying to bypass it could mean a further delay in any attempt to achieve a settlement. It could also mean a further strengthening of the extreme Muslim fundamentalist elements among the Palestinians, with whom it would be virtually impossible to reach any kind of settlement.

More than 3,000 years ago there was a shepherds' war in this land. According to Genesis 13, 7-9:

"And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle... And Abram said unto Lot: 'Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we are brethren. Is not the whole land before thee? Separate thyself, I pray thee from me; if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou take the right hand, then I will go to the left.'"

Nowadays, the only separation known to the Israeli government is "separate and rule." If we have gone back to the shepherds' war, maybe we can also listen to the ancient call of our forefather Abraham, and try once again to separate ourselves from our cousins-enemies.



Welcomed smoke

THE flurry of visits to Jordan and other Mideast states by an impressive array of foreign political leaders and emissaries and United Nations officials represents much smoke, and our hope is that where there is smoke there is fire. By fire, we mean a recognition that the essential problem in the Middle East — the 90-year-old conflict between Palestinian Arabs and Zionist Jews in Palestine — should be resolved permanently on an equitable basis that recognises the dual rights of Jews and Palestinians to national self-determination in Palestine — the ancestral land claimed and coveted by both people.

If all our distinguished foreign visitors are here to discuss how to reconcile Arab demands for stability with Israeli demands for security, the effort will lead nowhere. The equation to aim for is how to implement the twin rights of Palestinians and Israelis to national self-determination, sovereignty, security and human dignity. The Palestinian issue is one of national and human rights — not of finding a means to temper the anguish of the street, lads or finding a mechanism to quell expressions of political identity.

The flurry of visits and consultations we witness this week is welcomed and positive. It should focus squarely on the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict — the national rights of Palestinians and Israelis — while directly engaging the key parties in the conflict — the Palestinians and the Israelis — in meaningful negotiations, in a legitimate international context. Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, the USSR, the USA, the U.K. and the United Nations all have a constructive role to play. But the main protagonists are the Israelis and the Palestinians, and the efforts of all the other interested parties should be directed clearly towards launching a meaningful and genuine negotiating dynamics which sets the protagonists on a path towards a permanent, just and humane resolution of the conflict. The lesson of the past three months in Palestine is that the conflict has reverted to its historical essence — the clash of Palestinians and Zionists in the land of Palestine. We all need to heed the lessons of history, and honour the logic of history and the promise of the future, by acting on this fact.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan abides by nation's stand

PRIME Minister Zaid Rifai reiterated Jordan's firm stand with regard to partial solutions for the Arab-Israeli conflict and said that Amman completely rejects any talk about autonomy rule for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In a statement following a meeting with the Egyptian president in Cairo, Rifai said that Jordan can only accept a final settlement that can ensure lasting and just peace. He also noted that Jordan wants such peace to come through an international conference which should be attended by all parties to the conflict. Therefore, any American move being made under the slogan of "settlement" can only be assessed in the light of the Jordanian stand which is the stand of the whole Arab Nation. If such American move is not in harmony with our own conception of a just and durable peace to be achieved through the proposed international conference, then such move will not meet a better fate than those of previous moves and initiatives emanating from Washington. An international conference can achieve a total Israeli withdrawal from Arab lands occupied since 1967 and a permanent solution for the Palestine problem. Rifai's statements which preceded a visit to the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, can serve as the best Jordanian response to all American initiatives. The Americans will find our hearts and minds and doors open to them and their peace bids with an equal measure to their serious responsibility towards shouldering the question of stability, security and lasting peace in our area. If the coming American moves do not fall in line with Jordan's concept of peace, then they are doomed to failure.

Al Dustour: Jordan rejects partial resolution

JORDAN's current diplomatic moves in the regional and international circles is aimed at rallying the Arabs and unifying their ranks for the common goal. This diplomatic move comes at a time when diplomatic activity inside and outside the U.N. Security Council is being made to find a means for giving momentum to the Middle East peace process. A continuation of the process of enhancing understanding and cooperation among Arab countries is an essential step at present for achieving this Arab goal, and necessary for giving more weight for all Arab actions designed to regain justice and peace in our area. The uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip offers the Arabs a good chance for unifying their ranks and rallying their forces and reaching consensus on all future moves. Such unity of stand is necessary in the face of the Israeli intransigence and continued atrocities in the occupied Arab territory. Jordan is firm in its stand and its endeavours to maintain unanimous agreement on future actions, and also in forestalling any enemy plans and aborting external intrigues against this nation. Jordan continues to reject any bids for partial solutions for the Palestine problem and insists on the international conference as the best forum for achieving a solution and a lasting settlement. For this reason, Jordan strives to achieve the maximum degree of unity of ranks and consensus among Arab countries in the spirit of the Amman Arab summit meeting.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan's commitment

PRIME Minister Zaid Rifai yesterday carried a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak dealing with the present situation in the region and Jordan's views vis-a-vis current efforts to resolve the Middle East problem. Rifai told newsmen in Cairo after delivering the message that Jordan was totally committed to the idea of an international conference that can ensure a lasting peace in the region. Jordan's stand which reflects that of the whole Arab Nation is in harmony with the spirit of the Amman Arab summit of last November and calls for a durable settlement for the Middle East question through the U.N. sponsored conference. This reconfirmation of the Jordanian stand reflects this country's commitment towards a comprehensive settlement and not a partial solution as envisaged by the Camp David agreements which Mubarak has described as outdated and does not exist any more. In his statement to the press in Cairo, Rifai said that the Jordanian stand reflects that of the Arab Nation and is one that adheres to the rights of the Arab people in the occupied territories.

A two-state solution of Mideast conflict

The following article by Barry Schenker of Israel's left-wing *Mapam* Party is reprinted from *The Guardian*.

THE uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has highlighted the urgency of finding a solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict, but all parties argue for their own needs or make vague declarations about the future.

Calls for an international peace conference fail to specify who precisely should participate, or what the object is. In the absence of clear aims, the course of events is being dictated not by politicians, but by the protesters and illegal settlers.

In this context policy becomes reactive, positions become entrenched, and the common ground for negotiation becomes more elusive.

Negotiations can only take place when two conditions are met. One is that none of the parties has cause for *a priori* fear of entering negotiations; the other is that all parties recognise that there is no prospect for satisfying one's own needs other than by negotiation.

For this reason, while conventional wisdom has it that one should not declare one's hand prior to negotiations, the current impasse indicates that such declarations are actually imperative. What, then, can be the basis for negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians? There is one proposal which is politically acceptable to all, workable and moral.

There are basically three approaches to the core issue. The first is the rejectionist approach.

Absolute rejectionism, on both sides, is now mercifully in decline. On the Israeli side, this approach argues that the whole notion of Palestinian nationalism is simply a falsification of history. The land of Israel belongs to the Jews and to no one else. Arabs can live there with civic, but no national, rights. If they want a national home, let them go to Jordan.

Palestinian rejectionists claim that the Jews are not a nation, but only a religious entity. Those living in Palestine now are no more than foreign colonialists without inherent rights to be there.

The second position — currently the frontrunner — is the self-

interested approach. On the Israeli side, this says that Israel must not retain the occupied territories, otherwise Israel will suffer; Jewish morality is being undermined. Arabs will outnumber Jews, Israel will become undemocratic, and the territories constitute a defence problem and an economic burden.

The Palestinian version is that Israel is too powerful to be challenged at present, that sticks and stones, however many, are no match for Israeli guns, and that the Israelis are usurping the Palestinians' land and destroying their culture. Better to treat with the enemy and take half a loaf now than to lose everything.

The third approach is that of full mutual recognition. Here both sides acknowledge that the national rights of the other are inherently legitimate. On the Palestinian side, this entails an acceptance that Jews have a self-identity as a nation and have a religion, culture, tradition and history to substantiate that. It acknowledges that this sense of nationhood is rooted in the land of Israel.

On the Jewish side, this approach would recognise that the Palestinians are not "just" Arabs, and that whether their sense of national identity emerged in the last 20, 100 or 1,000 years is irrelevant, since today there is a group of people who identify themselves as a Palestinian "nation."

It perceives that the Palestinians, like the Jews, have suffered rejection, persecution and dispersal, and that they, too, seek an independent state which can safeguard their own culture and security. It would also be a unifying symbol, as with the Jews, for those in the Palestinian diaspora.

The mutual recognition approach has the twin merits of being politically viable and morally sound. One can only hope that in the current climate it will gain greater credence.

In political terms, this means a two-state solution to the land west of the River Jordan: Independent Israel within its pre-1967 borders and independent Palestine in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Negotiations between the two sides should set this as the ultimate goal.

Kinnock urges American pressure on Israel for int'l conference

(Continued from page 1)
Wednesday, also called on the Zionist state to respond to the will of the international community and accept the proposed peace conference.

He said an international conference was the only practical vehicle in the absence of any other serious and sensible course. He warned Israel that "it is politically impossible to maintain the status quo."

Kinnock said he was in favour of participation by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the proposed conference within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. He urged the PLO to be "realistic," warning that the

organisation risked impeding a valuable chance "if it insisted on a completely independent status."

"We should acknowledge the ideal and practice the realistic," he explained.

During his stay in the occupied territories, Kinnock will meet Palestinian personalities before beginning his talks with Israeli leaders Wednesday.

During his talks with Kinnock Tuesday, Crown Prince Hassan emphasised Jordan's adherence to the idea of an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all concerned parties and the five

permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

Prince Hassan also reviewed with Kinnock the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

The Crown Prince and Kinnock reviewed Jordanian-British relations and Arab-European ties. Prince Hassan stressed the need for continued Euro-Arab dialogue at all levels.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve.

Prince Hassan later hosted a lunch in honour of Kinnock.

PLO threatens retaliation for ship bombing and killings

(Continued from page 1)
the ship, Cleanthis Vlahopoulos, said it would take "several months" to make the Sol Phryne seaworthy again.

In its statement released in Nicosia, the PLO said it had adhered to a declaration made by PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Cairo in 1985, pledging to refrain

from military operations against Israeli targets outside Israel, on the understanding that Israel also would refrain from attacking PLO targets abroad.

"It is not logical or possible for the halt to continue unilaterally. This is a double-edged sword," the statement added.

In Kuwait, Arafat also dropped

strong hints Tuesday that the Cairo declaration had been nullified following the bombing.

"The Israelis should know that the Cairo agreement is not applicable only to one side and that terrorism is a double-edged weapon," Arafat said, addressing a press conference at the conclusion of a two-day visit to Kuwait.

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Clouded views from a Swiss Alp

The recent World Economic Forum validated the philosophy that if you put business and political leaders together in a cosseted but stimulating environment, results will emerge, says William Dullforce.

DAVOS — Take about 700 top businessmen from more than 50 countries to a plushly-equipped Swiss ski resort. Blend in 50 or so cabinet ministers, high government and international officials. Add 150 assorted politicians and academics. Spice with a Domsday planetary discourse from Professor Carl Sagan, the astrophysicist. Spin the lot in a near non-stop, impeccably-organised six-day schedule of plenary sessions, briefings, lunches, dinners and private meetings. And what do you have?

One correct, if surprising, answer is the venue for an act of political reconciliation between two perennially-divided nations — in this case Turkey and Greece.

Professor Klaus Schwab, the unflappable and indefatigable organiser of the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, experienced a moment of consummation recently when he appeared before television cameras together with Turgut Ozal, of Turkey, and Andreas Papandreu, of Greece, as the prime ministers announced their decision to start resolving their nations' differences.

The event validated the underlying philosophy of the WEF, that if you put political and business leaders together in a cosseted but stimulating environment, results will emerge. Ozal and Papandreu made their first, reserved, personal contact two years ago at breakfast in Davos.

Another correct answer is that in the WEF you have what one participant called the global town square. Encounters among international leaders and businessmen — in the Congress Hall, hotel lobby, walking down the prom-

enade or on the ski slopes — can be as casual or intense and as non-committal as between neighbours in a small town.

The WEF has at any rate passed the market test. The businessmen come back year after year even when the fee reaches this year's SwFr 6,100 (\$4,442).

This year, the October stock-market crash, the plunge of the dollar and the fear of recession in the U.S. had provided them with even more urgent reasons for testing the intentions and perceptions of the ministers, central bankers and international and government officials.

From the start, the businessmen's uncertainty and doubts were palpable. In one closed session, an Australian banker gave a warning that the U.S. policy of maintaining growth by running up debt was becoming less and less credible in the eyes of investors — a point made more diplomatically by Yasuhiro Nakasone, the former Japanese prime minister, in his opening address.

Was the U.S. leading the world into recession and was economic co-ordination among the main powers working fast enough? The banker asked.

One VIP, insisting that reporters present should not divulge his high government status, described as purely coincidental the "so-called" victory in December when combined central bank intervention halted and partially reversed the slide in the dollar. Either the exchange rate had to give further or interest rates had to rise in the U.S.

Lionel Olmer, a former U.S. undersecretary for commerce, chairing a discussion panel on the new rules for corporate competition, chided panelists for not

reflecting "the incredible difficulties facing the business community which has to make up its own rules as best it can to survive in an increasingly turbulent environment."

Where is the dollar rate going? Are interest rates bound to rise in the U.S.? Is international economic cooperation really working? Is the international trading system breaking down or will Gatt's Uruguay Round succeed in averting a retreat into protectionism? And above all, is the U.S. economy heading for recession, taking the rest of the world with it? Business concern punctuated plenaries, briefings and "brainstorming" sessions.

The response from the official decision-makers was qualified reassurance. On the dollar, David Mulford, assistant secretary for international affairs at the U.S. treasury, said a further decline would be "counterproductive."

Clayton Yentler, U.S. trade representative, said U.S. companies were internationally price competitive at current dollar rates.

A Swiss banker saw "no objective reasons" for the dollar to recover and how long could central banks keep it stable? Helmut Schlesinger, deputy president of the West German Bundesbank, was among those who agreed that central bank intervention could help only for a limited period.

The key lay, it was generally agreed, in persuading the markets that co-ordination of economic policies by the U.S., Japan and the big European countries was working.

"It is no good saying that co-ordination will work in the long run. In the long run we are all dead," Papandreu said.

Mulford, Schlesinger, Toyoo Gyohten, the Japanese vice-minister for finance, and Onno Ruding, Dutch finance minister,

agreed that co-ordination had been too lethargic after the attempt in the Louvre accord of last February to stabilise exchange rates.

But, Mulford claimed, since the October stockmarket crash, governments of the Group of Seven industrial countries had been achieving more effective co-ordination on a quiet daily basis than at earlier full-scale formal negotiations.

Slowdown in economic growth in the U.S. this year but no recession was the nearly-unanimous public forecast. Confidence was also voiced in private, but with some reservations, about currency and stockmarket reactions, should the switch from growth led by domestic demand to export-led growth be prolonged.

James Howell, professor of economics at Stanford University, California, estimated that a 4 per cent cut in private-U.S. consumption over the next few years would be needed to correct the U.S. trade deficit of more than \$170 billion in 1987.

An extremely powerful surge in U.S. exports would be needed to compensate, economists in the audience remarked, underlining the tenuousness of the current dollar rates and the importance of holding trade protectionism at bay.

Bruce Smart, U.S. undersecretary for international trade, probably summed up best the mood after the exchanges, when he was asked whether he thought exchange rates had now been stabilised and whether one could hope for a new Gatt agreement in 1990 with an effective dispute settlement mechanism.

Remarking that by then he would have left government and returned to business, he replied: "I hope for both and count on neither" — Financial Times feature.

Feminism makes debut in Soviet Press

By Mary Ellen Bortin
Reuter

MOSCOW — Feminism has made its debut in the Soviet Union's official press, where a woman writer said this month that without female equality the reforms of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev were doomed to failure.

"Hardly anything will change before perestroika comes down to the ground floors of life, to women," writer Maya Gonia said in an interview with Moscow News, a weekly in the forefront of Gorbachev's glasnost or openness drive.

"Why should women pay for the social and economic mistakes of men merely because they (men) hold command positions?" Gonia said, describing women as the downtrodden of a Soviet society unable to satisfy basic needs like food and clothing.

While officials, including Gorbachev's wife Raisa who serves on the board of the Soviet Cultural Foundation, have called for a better deal for women, they have stopped short of the social criticism voiced by feminists in the West.

Gonia's interview in effect came about as a result of perestroika, Gorbachev's economic and social reform drive, a key element of which is glasnost.

It followed publication in the literary journal Oktyabr of her new novel, "I hope as long as I

live," which describes the persecution of ordinary people in the Soviet provinces who protested against official abuses during the era of the late president Leonid Brezhnev.

Literature critical of the Soviet Union past and present was not published during Brezhnev's rule between 1964-82, a period now officially discredited as one of stagnation and corruption.

Women lack equal opportunities

Gonia said many women sought to take part in Gorbachev's reforms because "stagnation aimed its fire at them as well."

But she said women still lacked equal opportunities while working harder than men in a double day of cleaning, cooking and childcare after finishing their jobs at factories or farms.

As feminism in the West took shape in the late 1960s and the 1970s, Soviet men remained notoriously indifferent to the lifestyle imposed on their women in a country where millions of hours are lost each year in queuing at foodstores.

Small groups of Soviet feminists took shape in the late 1970s, but they were denied a forum for their writings. A collection of articles by a group of Leningrad feminists was published in France in 1980 but suppressed at home.

As one example of the Soviet

state's injustice to women, Gonia noted that women who took part in the behind-the-lines war effort at factories during World War II had received no honours during 40th anniversary victory celebrations in 1985.

"It is not too late to rectify this mistake — in the villages there still live the old women who gave us food, and those who worked 12-14 hours a day without days off at the factories, hungry, ragged and cold," she said.

Gonia, who lives with her husband in a rural area outside Moscow, said the situation was particularly grave in the countryside, where women did the heaviest farm work as well as gathering firewood, tending cattle and pumping water.

"In exchange they receive a spiritual vacuum, plus defective tractors and combine harvesters, costly household equipment, low-quality clothing and footwear," she said.

Women in hard jobs

"The shelves of the village grocery stores are empty. But payment in kind has been abolished and replaced with paper money which cannot be spent here."

Gonia said that despite "lofty words about equality" women were prevented from reaching the top echelons of government. She said she watched the television news with envy when women were shown confidently sitting

beside Soviet dignitaries.

"But these are not our countrymen — no," she said. "These are women from abroad, from capitalist countries where, if one were to believe our journalists writing on international affairs, women have yet to achieve equality with men."

Gonia said she had received bitter letters from women who tried to work their way up the hierarchy, only to end up with heart conditions or dismissal from their jobs.

Westerners who visit the Soviet Union are often struck by the overwhelming presence of women in such jobs as house-painting or heavy road work. In contrast, officials in view in top positions are almost exclusively men.

There are no women in the ruling politburo, and the secretary of the Communist Party's policy-setting central committee has just one woman member — social, labour and women's affairs secretary Alexandra Biryukova, appointed in 1986.

"Let us be truthful: Development opportunities are not equal for boys and for girls," Gonia said.

Her comments were expected to spark a broad readership response in Moscow News, which carries letters reacting to its controversial articles on themes from nuclear energy in the post-Chernobyl era to revised thinking on Soviet history.

One voice across the divide

By Stella Charbit
and Terence Kelly

THE BBC Arabic Service, 50 years old last month, serves some 20 countries, but feels itself "effectively a local radio station," according to its new head, Bob Jobbins. "You can treat the top job as being that of a station manager."

"We're the last outpost of Reithianism in a way," says Jim Norris, his predecessor. In a single service listeners are led from one level of brow to another. "And we're as British as roast beef and the Houses of Parliament, but we're also perceived to be Arab."

The service is "local" to all Arabs, not any particular country, and concentrates on reliable news and a neutral viewpoint. "Their own media are so unsatisfactory from their point of view that, if they want to know what's happening to the Arab World at large, they listen to us," says Norris. A Libyan bulletin might open with 15 minutes' solid Qadhafi. When the Arabic Service interviewed him for an hour, it used four minutes and was



Following 50 years of BBC tradition — Bob Jobbins in the studio (Photo by Frank Martin)

complimented on his behalf for its taste and discrimination.

Bob Jobbins, 46 years old, moved into control of the largest Bush House vernacular service, on air nine hours a day, from a background of international reporting for the BBC from 1975 and other organisations before that. His appointment echoes that of John Tusa, another working journalist, to the External Services' managing directorship (Tusa was on his selection

board). He has a staff of 84, nearly half of them Arabs, and a budget, excluding studio and transmitter costs, of £2.2 million.

The changes he plans will build gradually upon the strengths of the 55-60 per cent news and current affairs output, making it more relaxed, less formal and sharper, but without what Jobbins sees as Radio 4's "tendency to be dull and complacent."

Such strengths include the long-running Political Questions and Answers, which gives dispassionate replies to queries from listeners (some of them doubtless students facing difficult assignments) and a popular evening wrap-up, News Of The Arab World.

King Hussein and the leaders of Bahrain and Oman listen to Jobbins's services, and he is confident that most senior politicians and civil servants also tune in.

A 1968 survey showed that 60.6 per cent of the Arabs in Israel and the occupied territories listen. The Gaza uprising will have raised the audience further, temporarily attracting the teenyboppers who normally prefer Monte Carlo's Arabic popular music service. Jobbins does not see it as a weakness that his audience is largely aged 35-plus. Youngsters prefer pop — in boyhood Jobbins himself was a Luxembourg fan.

The Arabic Service's reputation rests on independence from government. John Reith insisted on this when its broadcasts were inaugurated to counteract Italian and German propaganda designed to destabilise Britain's Middle East position after the Palestine Arab revolt of 1936. The BBC must take full responsibility for the service, he said, and it must conform to BBC standards and principles and not damage the existing Empire Service.

At its birth it clashed with Foreign Office mandarins who preferred to give it a propaganda role. To their chagrin, its first news bulletins reported the execution by the British of a Palestinian Arab who had contravened the security regulations by carrying arms.

"Right from the start we insisted we were not going to speak

to different audiences with different voices," said Norris. "We were not going to bend our editorial judgments in any way that seemed to us improper."

In the World War II, this "news" stayed unsullied, but as Norris admits, the BBC let talks and commentaries be used as a means of persuasion in ways we would disapprove of today. However, during the Suez invasion the service resisted pressures to remove from bulletins and press summaries reference to opponents of Eden government policy. "Broadcasting in the national interest has never been seen by the BBC as broadcasting in the interest of the government of the day" is how Norris summarises its stance.

Other traditions developed with time. The service speaks to the Arab World as if it were one, however disunited it is in practice. The quality of broadcast Arabic is cherished, because it is a language of religion and poetry.

One change in tradition should impress Jobbins's cost-conscious director-general. The service's monthly magazine, Huna London, has gone commercial. Instead of being posted free to 70,000 people who had requested it, perhaps years ago, it is now being sold by subscription or on news-stands. This will free £100,000 for programming, and if distribution problems are solved the magazine might make a profit.

The Arabic Service is also having a wider impact on BBC output. It receives far more requests now from other producers for its expertise. "The isolation of Bush is ended," says Jobbins, recalling former frustrations at hearing academics talking on Newswatch about a country they had not visited for years, when he was just back from there.

The shift is part of the wider shake-up initiated by Tusa, reflecting the BBC's efforts to streamline its journalistic departments.

The wisdom of promoting to power journalists like Tusa and Jobbins, rather than veterans of BBC committee wars, must now prove itself in the coming years — The Guardian.

Crown Prince: Jordan, Egypt seek comprehensive Mideast peace settlement

(Continued from page 1)

first report to the Arab ministerial committee last month, with the task of reviewing Arab multilateral action.

Unlike regional groups like the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Arab community has in the past failed to meet on common interests, mainly because economic resolutions depended on purely political considerations, he said. "Each Arab state drew the line on what it could offer towards joint Arab action and Arab complementarity. In my opinion, the alternative is to maintain the direction of the Amman summit and support the move towards complementarity, whether on the national level or by building complementarity on regional 'bricks' that conform with Arab national objectives, such as we now see in the Arab Maghreb."

"The concept of 'complementary regional building bricks' leads us to talk about our area, which I prefer to call the South West Asian region rather than the Near or Middle East," the Crown Prince said. "The importance of this region is evident in its four hot spots, or five, if we include the Horn of Africa. Since it lies outside the protective nuclear umbrella of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, it naturally became open to division into spheres of influence by the two superpowers. We have consequently sought to bolster cooperation amongst the countries of this geographical grouping in

order to reach an independent regional expression on the vital issues that affect the stability of the region. From here stems the wisdom of resuming diplomatic relations between the community of Arab states and Egypt to re-incorporate Egyptian vitality into the region and reinforce stability and joint identity on the Arab Islamic level. It is also important to stress that the collective will must express itself by means of political action based on a genuine desire to build a joint framework for complementary standards and likemindedness."

His Royal Highness added that a comprehensive view of the region shows the interlinkage between its various causes. "I believe the Afghan cause is directly linked to the portrait of 'spheres of influence' between the USSR and the USA in the Gulf and Iran," he said. "The Arab-Israeli conflict is also strongly linked to the elements of power and weakness in the Gulf. The alliances exposed in the 'Irangate' scandal probably indicate parts of this picture."

"Accordingly, in my recent meeting with Turkish officials, who form a part of this region, I proposed the establishment of a 'Centre for Conflict Resolution' in the Asian-European city of Istanbul to study and deal with the hot struggles in the region," the Crown Prince said.

"The natural complementarity amongst the countries of the region faces intensified efforts by the great powers to divide and

oppose the concept of complementarity in a region that in the mid-fifties formed the basis of the dream of 'non-alliance' which was fulfilled in Bandung, with a vital contribution from Egypt, one of the movement's distinguished parties. The great powers have continued to oppose the independent role of the countries of the region through various practices, initiatives and attempts to assert the belief that their natural complementarity would not be natural without the direct approval of the giants.

"It should be noted here that there are over 40 regional conflicts in the world and that over 10 of them lie between India and the farthest Arab territories in the Maghreb, with the hottest and most important conflicts centred in South West Asia. It is my view that no political stand and will to resolve these conflicts will be effective unless the countries of the region itself reach a regional understanding."

"In the light of these facts, we cannot imagine that a sensible Iranian thinker, for example, would seek to assert the role of the superpowers in our region in the form of this new imperialism, and in this would agree with any thinker in any other capital in the region. One should remind and warn here that talk of alliances and axes is the enemy's and the superpowers' method of shattering any real concept of complementarity amongst us. Stability based on the concept of regional complementarity amongst sovereign states does not settle well with opportunists in the re-

gion and their accomplices outside."

"In this framework, the wedges struck by the Iran-Iraq war are in the final analysis artificial wedges between Arab and Persian or Shi'ite and Sunni. They must be removed in order to converse sensibly and to pave the way for political dialogue some day."

"The crystallisation of the concept of complementarity and cooperation amongst the states of the region, especially those surrounding the hot spots of the area, has acquired increasing importance and drawn the interest of several countries, particularly the Western economic community. This explains the Japanese initiative to offer Jordan assistance in the form of unconditional

soft loans to the sum of \$300 million as an expression of the Japanese government's recognition of the importance of the region and appreciation of Jordan's role in maintaining stability in the region as a whole. This indicates Japan's farsighted view of the region and its recognition, for example, of the fact that the transfer of oil pipeline from the Gulf to the Red Sea area enters the countries of both regions into joint regional responsibility for what I termed the External Basic Security Rim for the Arab region's wealth of resources."

"In return, we must assert our independent and effective role and deal with others outside the context of alliances and super-

Palestinians observe 'day of wrath' in occupied territories

(Continued from page 1)

clashed in the village of Ras Karkar near Ramallah, the army said, but did not provide further details. The Palestinian agency said soldiers fired tear-gas and live ammunition to disperse protesters.

In the Gaza Strip, Arabs burned tires at the entrance to Gush Qatif, a group of Jewish settlements along the Mediterranean shore, Israel Radio said.

The leaflets, signed by the "United National Leadership of the Uprising," had also called for attacks on Jewish settlements.

The army, meanwhile, questioned some of the four Palesti-

nians from the West Bank village of Kfar Salem who said they were buried alive by Israeli soldiers after a demonstration Feb. 5 (See page 2).

Israel Radio said 21 Arabs were arrested in Jerusalem Monday, bringing to 437 the number of demonstrators detained in the Holy City since Dec. 8. During that period, at least 56 Arabs have been killed by Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to U.N. figures.

'Uprising has popular backing'

As the general strike gripped the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a senior army commander contra-

dicted Israeli leaders who have depicted the 10-week-old uprising as the work of a small minority of "agitators" without popular backing.

"What we confront is a widespread violent uprising led by a nucleus of activists and which enjoys the support and cooperation of the masses," Major-General Ehud Barak, deputy chief of staff, told a news conference.

Barak said the occupied territories were "relatively calm" in the last few days but warned: "The whole thing is not stable, it simmers under the surface and might erupt due to trivial events in the area under our control or due to some external events."



The Calgary ski-line

Zurbriggen launches bid for second gold

CALGARY (AP) — Pirmin Zurbriggen, combining speed with flawless technique, was to start his quest for a second Olympic ski championship Tuesday while the Soviet Union was favoured to extend its hold on the pairs figure skating gold to 24 years.

The big question being asked after Zurbriggen's brilliant downhill victory Monday was how many gold medals he would win. An unprecedented five?

"I don't think so," the 25-year-old Zurbriggen told reporters. "It's nice when I can win one medal."

"It would be very difficult," Zurbriggen said of his sweep prospects. "The conditions would have to be just right every time."

Only Austria's Toni Sailer and France's Jean-Claude Killy have swept the men's alpine events at an Olympics. They won three each — for the downhill, slalom and giant slalom — in 1956 and 1968 respectively.

To the Calgary Games have been added the super giant slalom and the combined downhill-slam, which was to have its Olympic inaugural Tuesday on the slopes of Mount Allan, 95 kilometres west of Calgary.

Zurbriggen is given the strongest chances of reaping more golds in the combined and super-G.

Tuesday's downhill leg of the combined was not to see a new duel between Zurbriggen and teammate Peter Mueller, who won silver in the regular downhill Monday.

Franck Piccard of France took the downhill bronze medal Monday.

Canadians, Americans struggle for medals

CALGARY (AP) — The Winter Olympics hasn't measured up to the expectations of host country Canada and neighbouring United States, struggling to regain its dominance on the slopes and ice. It's one of the few occasions they get the powerful Europeans on their home turf.

Pairs skating

Tuesday's only final was pairs skating, in which the Soviet Union was expected to continue dominance. That began with the legendary Oleg Protopopov and Ludmila Belousova, who won the first of two Olympic titles at Innsbruck in 1964.

Their heirs-apparent this time are Ekaterina Gordeeva, a dainty 16-year-old school girl, and partner Sergei Grinkov. They were in top position after easily winning the short programme Sunday.

The East Germans were favourites to add more gold by taking the women's huge competition starting Tuesday. Medals will be awarded on the basis of total times for two runs Tuesday and two Wednesday on the 1,080-metre course at nearby Canada Olympic Park.

Ute Oberhoffner, Cerstin Schmid and Steffi Walter finished 1-2-3 in Sunday's final training run, raising the prospect of an East German sweep.

East Germany picked up a gold medal in the men's luge competition Monday.

Winner Jens Mueller, a 22-year-old student, had led from the first of four heats. The silver medal was won by West Germany's Georg Hackl, who had beaten Mueller for the European championships last month.

The Soviet Union's Yuri Kharchenko took the bronze.

On the tough Canmore nordic course, Soviet skiers won gold and silver in the 30-kilometre cross-country for the third Olympics in a row. Alexei Prokourorov took the gold ahead of teammate Vladimir Smirnov, while Norway's Vegard Ulvang won bronze.

But Monday wasn't a good day for Olympians from the two countries. And neither was Sunday for that matter.

After six events on the first two days of competition, neither country had won a medal.

"Personally I'm happy and satisfied with the race," said Canadian Pierre Harvey, who finished the 30-kilometre cross-country race Monday in 1 hour, 28 minutes and 21.7 seconds. He was 14th, more than four minutes behind the gold medalist, Alexei Prokourorov of the Soviet Union.

"But maybe people will be disappointed because they expected me to win a medal."

There was little hope that Americans could win more than half a dozen medals, and their performances in the first two days of individual events indicated they may live down to expectations.

And the number two official on the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) predicted it might not get any better.

"I think that it's possible, although I hope it doesn't occur, that we won't win a gold medal," Baaron Pittenger, secretary of the USOC, said in an interview Monday with the Associated Press.

The United States has won at least one gold medal in each of the previous 14 Winter Games. The worst U.S. medal count was four in the first winter games in

1988 WINTER OLYMPICS

MEDAL TABLE

CALGARY (AP) — Total medals after events Monday, second full day of competition at the Winter Olympics:

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
The Soviet Union	2	2	1	5
East Germany	2	0	0	2
Switzerland	1	1	0	2
Finland	1	0	1	2
Czechoslovakia	0	1	1	2
The Netherlands	0	1	0	1
West Germany	0	1	0	1
France	0	0	1	1
Japan	0	0	1	1
Norway	0	0	1	1

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- Road signs and markings; and
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Jordanian contractors wishing to bid for the above tenders shall be registered with the Government Tenders Board, as shown below, and shall submit proof of current registration with their bids.

- Corridor No. 1: Category 3 or higher for road works.
 - Corridor No. 2: Category 3 or higher for road works, plus Category 2 or higher for concrete works.
 - Corridor No. 3: Category 3 or higher for road works, plus registration for concrete works.
- Tenders shall be submitted not later than 10:00 a.m. on 14/3/1988.

NOTE:
All tenderers shall submit documentation for post-qualification as detailed in the particular Conditions of Contract. Tenders without the required documentation shall be rejected.

Czech comeback muddles ice hockey prospects

CALGARY (AP) — Czechoslovakia, on the verge of virtual elimination from the Olympic hockey tournament, instead has muddled the medal-round picture.

The third-seeded Czechs were down 3-0 to the No. 7 United States with just over six minutes gone in Monday night's game. But they blasted their way back into medal contention with four third-period goals, winning 7-5.

A loss would have dropped highly touted Czechoslovakia to 0-2 in the "B" pool while the Americans would have been tied at 2-0 with sixth-seeded West Germany, a 7-3 winner earlier in the day over Norway, and the No. 2 Soviets, who whipped Austria 8-1.

Instead, the Czechs are tied with the Americans at 1-1 and only have to face the Soviets among the pool's top teams. The Americans face the powerful Soviets Wednesday night and then still have to play the West Germans.

The top three teams in each of the two pools advance to the medal round.

The Americans scored on their first three shots and knocked world-class goalie Dominik Hasek out of the net. After a Czechs goal, that team's new goalie Jaromir Sidel was victimised by Dave Snuggers' power-play tally, boosting America's lead to 4-1.

But the Czechs gamely rallied, finally tying the score 4-4 on Antonin Stavjansky's goal early in the third period.

Again the United States went ahead, on Scott Fusco's power-play goal.

And again Czechoslovakia rallied. This time its hero was Dusan Pesek, who beat U.S. goalie Mike Richter. He then sent a cross-ice feed to Igor Laba for the game-winning short-handed goal and added an empty-netter for good measure.

The 11th-seeded Austrians were tied 1-1 with the Soviets early in the first period. But the Soviet Union then netted a short-handed goal, starting a string of seven straight scores, including four

in a five-minute stretch of the second period.

Soviet 'aren't as good'

Still, Norway assistant coach Tore Jobs, whose team lost to the Soviets in the first round, wasn't impressed.

"The Soviets aren't as good as they usually are," he said.

The Soviet Union, the defending Olympic champion and winner of six of the last eight gold medals, has had trouble in the past year. Sweden won the world championship in April and Canada beat the Soviet Union at the Izvestia tournament in Moscow in December and in a pre-Olympic tuneup last Wednesday.

Gerd Truntschka scored twice and Helmut Steiger added a goal and two assists for West Germany, which fully dominated Norway.

West German coach Xaver Unsinn isn't surprised his team is being mentioned in the same breath as the Soviet team.

Unsinn has been getting solid goaltending from Karl Friesen and Helmut de Raaf. The goalies have received solid protection from captain Udo Kiessling and the other defencemen.

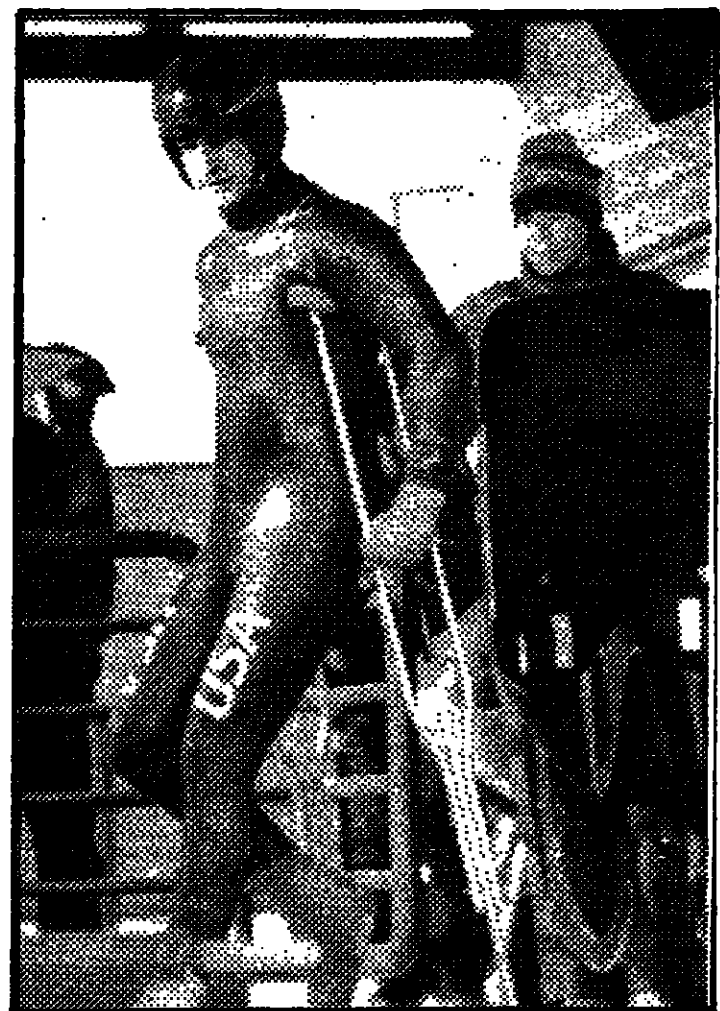
And the opportunistic offence has been bolstered by the play of Helmut Steiger, who has four points in two games, including a goal and two assists against Norway.

"I knew there was an outside chance that we'd be 2-0 if we played carefully and cleverly," Unsinn said. "It's not the first time we beat the Czechs."

"I'm not forecasting the medal round," Unsinn said. "But I said if we beat the Americans, the Russians or the Canadians, the sky's the limit. I won't go into that today."

The "A" pool resumes play Tuesday, with top-seeded Sweden meeting No. 8 Poland, fourth-seeded Canada playing surprising No. 9 Switzerland and No. 5 Finland seeking to rebound against 12th-seeded France.

Sweden, Canada and Switzerland all won their first-round games.



American luge Miroslav Zajonc injured himself during a practice run in his luge at Calgary, but that did not stop him from competing though he did not win any honours.

1924 and again in 1936.

Disappointments

Their disappointments ranged from bitter in men's 500-metre speed skating, traditionally a strong U.S. event, to unsurprising in ski jumping and cross-country skiing, events in which the Americans have rarely won medals.

Meanwhile, the Canadians, expected to compete for a medal in the Olympic Men's downhill, could do no better than Mike Carney's 14th place in Monday's downhill ski race.

"I'm disappointed," said Rob Boyd, who finished 16th. "This was my first Olympics and maybe the pressure got to me a little bit...things felt a little different. I wasn't thinking of my skiing so much as the crowd and the Olympics."

The U.S. downhillers, far less experienced than the Canadians,

had figured to finish far back. And they did, a 26th their best result by A.J. Kitt.

Neither country had ever won a medal in the 70-metre ski jump, an Olympic event since 1964. Sunday was no different.

Canadian Steve Collins placed 10th and American Mark Kono-packo finished 14th. The competition was won by Matti Nykanen of Finland with 229.1 points.

Another event in which little was expected of either team was the women's 10-kilometre cross-country race. Neither has won a medal, or finished higher than an Olympic event since 1964. Sunday was no different.

The top Canadian finisher was Lorna Sasseville at 30th. American Leslie Krichko was 36th among 51 finishers. Both were more than a minute slower than gold medalist Vida Ventsene of the Soviet Union.

Britain's Eddie 'the Eagle' soars to glorious defeat

CALGARY (R) — Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards soared to one of the most glorious defeats in Winter Olympic history Sunday when he finished 58th and last in the 70 metres ski jump.

Britain's lone ski jumper, whose cheerful embrace of mediocrity has captured the imagination of millions, had the world at his feet when he began the second round of jumps to the rapturous applause of a packed crowd.

He grimaced and waved before setting off down the hill for his second successive 55-metre effort and raised his skis in triumph when it was over.

The 24-year-old plasterer was completely underwhelmed by the fact that gold medalist Matti Nykanen of Finland jumped 34.5 metres further each time. Or that his points tally after two jumps was less than everyone else's after one.

"It was amazing," he said. "The crowd was so enthusiastic. This is the best day of my life. Now I'm an Olympian — great."

Edwards, who has only been ski jumping for two years, now plans to aim at his British record of 68 metres in Saturday's 90-metre event.

For a while, it looked as if Edwards had already achieved that feat because the scoreboard awarded him a jump of 75 metres. Unfortunately for "fast Eddie," the score was later cor-



Eddie Edwards

rected.

Edwards, whose ambition is to become a stuntman, already has big plans for the future. He said a car manufacturer had asked him to take a four-wheel drive vehicle up the 90-metre jump.

"They wanted to show off how good their four-wheel drive is," he said. "But I said why not turn it round and I'll drive it off the jump to show what a beautiful suspension it has. I'm here if they need me."

Edwards' parents flew from Britain to watch their son compete. "I thought about waving to them while I was on the jump but I was too busy trying to stand up to do it," he said.

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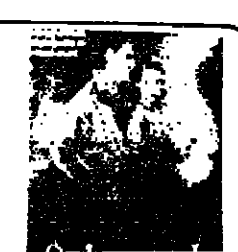


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Leading opposition figure shot dead in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (R) — A Sri Lankan opposition party leader who is also a film star was shot dead Tuesday by unidentified gunmen, police and hospital sources said.

Vijaya Kumaratunga, leader of the leftist Sri Lanka Mahajana Party (People's Party), was shot in the capital, Colombo, and died in hospital, they said.

Political sources said Kumaratunga's killing might have been connected to his support for a controversial accord signed by Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi aimed at ending the Tamil revolt on the island.

Kumaratunga, aged about 35, appeared in more than 100 films and was voted Sri Lanka's most popular actor in 1986.

He was married to Chandrika, the younger daughter of two former prime ministers, Solomon Bandaranaike and Sirima Bandaranaike.

Police said two men riding a motorbike shot him with an automatic rifle while he was on the veranda of his house in Colombo.

Kumaratunga, with his wife and other opposition figures, broke from his mother-in-law's Freedom Party four years ago and formed the Mahajana Party. Mahajana leaders said Bandaranaike's group had abandoned the socialist aims for which it was founded.

Speaking on radio and television Monday night, Kumaratunga condemned a spate of killings of politicians and officials in the past few months blamed by police on an outlawed Marxist group opposed to the peace accord with India.

Witnesses said thousands of fans stormed the Colombo hospital to see Kumaratunga as news spread about the shooting. Police and troops were called in to control the crowds.

Hospital sources said Kumaratunga had been shot in the face at close range.

They said one other person who was with him had been wounded and was being treated in hospital.

Meanwhile, a Tamil rebel killed himself with cyanide when Indian soldiers stormed a house in eastern Sri Lanka where they captured a guerrilla leader and two other separatists, sources close to the rebels said Tuesday.

The sources said the second-in-command of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in the area, known only as Sitha, was seized Monday at a meeting with the other rebels and a trade union leader.

The Indians had been tipped off and 50 soldiers surrounded the bungalow on the edge of Batticaloa.

One rebel with Sitha committed suicide by swallowing a cyanide capsule as the soldiers moved in, the sources said.

The Tigers, largest of the guerrilla groups which have waged a five-year campaign for a separate Tamil state, are ordered to kill themselves so they cannot be captured and questioned.

South African opposition groups vow campaign against municipal elections

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Two of South Africa's most influential anti-apartheid organisations said Monday they would conduct a mass campaign against nationwide municipal elections in October.

The organisations are the United Democratic Front (UDF), which claims more than two million members, and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's biggest black labour federation with 350,000 members.

South Africa's majority blacks cannot take part in national elections but can vote at the municipal level. For the first time this year, elections for white and black municipal councils will be held on the same day.

Turnout by black voters was only six per cent at the last municipal elections in 1984.

Activist organisations like the UDF and COSATU have opposed the councils, describing them as tools of the white minority, and black councillors have often been physically assaulted by left-wing blacks.

"The municipal councils form an integrated part of the national oppression that has inflicted so much hardship, suffering, poverty and violence on the majority of people," the UDF and COSATU said in a joint statement.

It said a unified national campaign against the elections would

be launched, but did not specify what steps would be taken.

In a later development, South African police said Tuesday they had found badly decomposed bodies of seven black women in Western Transvaal's farming town of Klerksdorp, apparently victims of one of the worst mass murders in recent years.

They said they were questioning a man in connection with the killing of the women, aged between 19 and 24, whose naked bodies had been found under tree branches near a golf course.

They said the 35-year-old man being investigated appeared in a Klerksdorp court last week after a woman in the same area was raped. She managed to escape her attacker.

A police spokesman said it was not clear if the detainees were linked to the grisly find, and investigators were trying to establish if the seven women had been raped.

He gave no other details. Klerksdorp, a conservative town for whites with two adjacent townships for blacks, is situated in the middle of the belt of gold mines which cuts across Transvaal province.

Also on Tuesday, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu called for South Africans of all faiths to pray and fast every Wednesday and Friday until April for an end to violence in the country's black

townships.

Tutu appealed to Christians and people of goodwill to follow the example of Natal province's Bishop Michael Nuttall, who will not eat between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday, then pray and fast for justice and peace twice a week until Easter, April 3.

Twelve people were killed in fighting between black factions near the provincial capital Pietermaritzburg and in other parts of Natal during the weekend, bringing the number of dead to more than 400 in the past year.

Ugandan rebels kill 19 in attack on bus

MBALE, Uganda (R) — Ugandan rebels killed 19 civilians and seriously wounded 47 when they ambushed a bus in northeastern Uganda, officials of the government's National Resistance Army (NRA) said Tuesday.

The rebels, members of the Uganda People's Army of former Defence Minister Peter Oti,

attacked the bus 19 kilometres west of Mbalale Monday on the main road to the town of Soroti, they said.

The attack was the worst in the area for more than two weeks. The NRA says a determined campaign against the rebels has improved security in the northeast.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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LEND A FRIEND A HAND

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH ♠ 72

♣ 6

♦ A K J 10 8 4

♠ K 9 3

WEST ♠ 8 4

♣ K 10 9

♦ K Q 10 9 5 3 2

♠ 9 8 2

EAST ♠ A Q 10 8 5

♣ A J 6 5 3

♦ A J

♠ Q 5

♣ 7 6 4 2

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ 3 ♣

2 ♠ 4 ♣ 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

On this site of the Atlantic, the common way to encourage partner to continue a suit is to play an unnecessarily high card. However, don't let signalling be a substitute for intelligence.

West's preemptive jump overcall placed North under considerable pressure. He wisely decided it was more important to show his spade support rather than rebid his excellent diamond suit, and a fair spade game was quickly reached.

Rather than attack with a heart,

in which suit his side could hope for one trick at best, West led his jack of clubs. Declarer played low from dummy and East signalled enthusiastically with the ten. West would have loved to continue with another club through the king to his partner's marked ace-queen, but search as he might he could not find another one in his hand.

He shifted to the queen of hearts, in case his partner held the ace. South won and ruffed a heart on the table, then took the trump finesse. When that won and the suit split 3-2, declarer ended up losing only two club tricks and a trump.

As is often the case, the opening lead told the story. Since East was looking at the ten of clubs, he knew his partner's lead of the jack had to be from shortness. Signalling for a come-on was all well and good if the lead was from a singleton, but more likely it was a singleton. West probably would have preferred a heart lead to a doubleton club.

East had available a play that would have catered to either possibility. He should simply have overtaken the jack with the queen and cashed the ace. Even if West had started with a doubleton, he would ruff the third club and East's sure trump trick would have netted a one-trick defeat.

Police arrest Ershad opponents in Dhaka

DHAKA (R) — Bangladeshi police arrested three opposition leaders in a pre-dawn swoop Tuesday, after the government said it would deal sternly with those trying to thwart March 3 parliamentary elections.

Police said Sajeda Chowdhury, general secretary of the Awami League, and retired colonels Akbar Hossain and Oali Ahmed of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party were picked up at their homes.

Police also raided the homes of at least six other opposition leaders who had gone underground to escape arrest, the families of the political activists said.

"Carloads of policemen stormed our home... and ransacked furniture before they whisked my husband away," Ahmed's wife said.

Police began laying the dragnet after Bangladeshi President Hossain Mohammad Ershad said Monday the army would ensure the elections were held, despite

opposition threats. "We shall deploy the army and take all other security measures to ensure the peaceful holding of the elections," he told an annual parade of ansars (auxiliary policemen).

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina deplored the decision as aimed at protecting government henchmen from people's wrath. "We urge the government to call off the decision which would only lead to more violence and loss of lives," she said.

Bangladesh Nationalist Party chief Begum Khaleda Zia also deplored the decision. She called on Ershad to keep the army above politics and stop using them against the people.

Government sources said Ershad decided on army cover for the parliamentary election after at least 152 people were killed and 8,000 injured in rural elections last Wednesday.

Manila reports foreign funds diverted to rebels

MANILA (R) — A top intelligence body said in a report released Tuesday that at least six European-based agencies had funded programmes for a Communist-infiltrated church group in the Philippines.

The National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA), the civilian intelligence group of Philippine President Corason Aquino, also said it had evidence an Australian organisation gave money to the church body that eventually was used to finance a protest march against then President Ferdinand Marcos.

The report was released to reporters by a committee of the Philippine House of Representatives investigating alleged Communist infiltration of the Philip-

pine Roman Catholic Church.

NICA identified the local group as the National Secretariat for Social Action (NASSA), a Catholic community work organisation which acts as a "clearing house" for international funding groups.

NASSA officials could not be contacted immediately for comment.

The organisations named in the report included a West German group called Misereor, the Asia Fund for Human Development Programme in Holland, the Dutch Bishop Leuten Campaign, the Swiss Catholic Leuten Fund, Caritas of Switzerland and Belgium's Entrade et Fraternite.

Costa Ricans tie U.S. aid misuse charges to contra vote

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) — Costa Rican government officials and businessmen deny that they enriched themselves on U.S. foreign aid, and say the accusations were timed to embarrass Costa Rica just before the U.S. Congress voted on aid to Nicaragua's contra rebels.

But several other businessmen and American embassy sources also say some of the accusations are probably true.

The U.S. State Department memorandum charges that American embassy officials mis-spent and mismanaged millions of dollars in foreign aid, including providing college scholarships for children of influential citizens and creating a development agency that largely benefited politicians.

A government spokesman, who agreed to be interviewed only on condition he not be identified, said in an interview Mon-

Thai-Laos peace talks continue

BANGKOK (R) — Thailand and Laos failed to agree on a border ceasefire on the first day of peace talks here but will continue attempts to hammer out an agreement Wednesday, Thai military spokesmen said.

As military commanders of both sides attempted to work out a ceasefire Tuesday, Thai forces continued artillery and air strikes to dislodge Laotian troops from disputed border hills, Thai army and air force spokesmen said.

"Military operations are continuing because no agreement has yet been reached," Thai Army Secretary Narendol Dechpradith told reporters.

A Thai Supreme Command spokesman who briefed reporters on the talks between Thai General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh and Laotian General Sisavat Keobounphan called them extremely cordial talks.

Khmer Rouge seeks talks with Sihanouk

PARIS (AP) — Kampuchean guerrilla leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who resigned last month as head of a resistance coalition negotiating for an end to the Kampuchean conflict, is to meet next summer with Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, according to a telegram released Tuesday.

After an 8-year stalemate, negotiations were held in Paris last December and January between Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnam-installed government and Sihanouk, leader of the resistance.

The meetings, which failed to produce a blueprint for peace, were aimed at removing outside interference from Kampuchea.

3-week-old infant undergoes heart transplant surgery in U.S.

PITTSBURGH (R) — A three-week-old boy underwent more than 10 hours of heart transplant surgery in Pittsburgh Monday, and a week-old infant was upgraded from critical to serious condition, 24 hours after he was given a new heart in California.

Both infants were born with hypoplastic left-heart syndrome, a lethal underdevelopment of the heart. Jonathan Stowe, born Jan. 25, entered the operating room at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh around midnight (0500 GMT) and emerged at 10:15 a.m. (1515 GMT), said hospital spokeswoman Sue Cardillo. He was the youngest heart transplant patient at that hospital.

At Loma Linda, California, Baby Christoffer born into an American air force family, received a new heart in a 5-hour operation performed Sunday by Dr. Leonard Bailey, the surgeon who transplanted a baboon heart into the infant girl known as Baby Fae in 1984.

"Christoffer's condition was upgraded this morning from critical to serious," said Dick Schaefer, spokesman for Loma Linda University Medical Centre, the hospital 96 kilometres east of Los Angeles.

The boy had been in Loma Linda's neo-natal intensive care unit for six days, three of them on life support, before the transplant surgery.

Heavy security surrounds trial of Arkansas white supremacists

FORT SMITH, Arkansas (AP) — Dozens of heavily armed law officers were on hand for the beginning of the trial of 14 men charged with a white supremacist plot to overthrow the American government and related crimes. Jury selection was to begin Tuesday in a federal courtroom surrounded by guards and at least two metal detectors.

The various charges include sedition, attempts to kill a federal judge and an FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) agent and participation in bank robberies.

Late Monday, manacled defendants guarded by officers with submachine guns were brought

into the federal courthouse as patrol cars blocked streets by the building.

Ten defendants are accused of conspiring "to destroy by force the government of the United States and form a new Aryan nation," according to the indictment by a federal grand jury last April.

White supremacists use the term "Aryan" to mean non-Jewish Caucasians.

In the weeks leading up to the trial, the Ku Klux Klan white supremacist group held 15 rallies in Arkansas cities. In most cases the turnout was small, and Klan backers were met in some cases by hostile observers.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

23 Italian children have died of AIDS

ROME (AP) — At least 41 Italian children under the age of 12 have contracted AIDS, and 23 of them already have died, the Italian Institute of Health reported Monday. The institute, a division of the Ministry of Health, said that as of the end of last September, 23 girls and 18 boys had come down with the disease. It said 33 were the children of drug addicts, three were hemophiliacs and that three others had received blood transfusions. Italian Health Minister Carlo Donat Cattin said earlier this month that 800 people had died of AIDS in Italy. The ministry said 1,478 cases of AIDS had been reported in the country through Dec. 31.

Stolen Nazi documents not used for blackmail

BERLIN (AP) — Prosecutors Monday said there was no evidence that documents stolen from an American-run Nazi records centre were used to blackmail former members of the Nazi Party. Volker Kaehe, spokesman for the Berlin Justice Department, said investigators believe tens of thousands of Nazi-era documents have been stolen from the American-run Berlin Document Centre. "Our investigation so far indicates that the documents were stolen for profit," Kaehe said in a statement. "There is no evidence to indicate suggestions that they were used for blackmail." The Berlin Morgenpost newspaper reported Tuesday that West German authorities have been told for years of suspicions that documents were being taken from the centre. An unnamed dealer offered British historian David Irving, an expert on the Nazi era, documents that allegedly came from the centre nearly a decade ago, the newspaper said without citing sources.

Man dies in Downing Street car blast

LONDON (R) — A man was killed when his car burst into flames Tuesday at the entrance to Downing Street where British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher lives. Police said the incident was not being treated as a terrorist attack. Fire Brigade sources suggested the driver could have committed suicide by dousing himself with petrol and setting himself alight. Several petrol cans had been found in the burned-out wreckage of the car, they said. A post mortem was being conducted later Tuesday on the man's badly burned body. A police spokeswoman said the car pulled up to the entrance of Downing Street shortly after 1 a.m. (0100 GMT) and burst into flames. Thatcher was sleeping in her residence at Number 10 Downing Street but was not disturbed when the car ignited.

Antiquities chief removed after Sphinx controversy

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's antiquities chief, Ahmed Kadri, was removed from office Monday, apparently over a public row with Egyptian Culture Minister Farouk Hosni about damage to the Sphinx. A Culture Ministry official said Kadri had been transferred to another post after six years as chairman of the Antiquities Organisation. He declined to say why. A limestone slab weighing about 300 kilograms last week fell off the right shoulder of the Sphinx, a huge 4,600-year-old Pharaonic monument near the pyramids. The damage provoked heated debate between Hosni and Kadri about how best to preserve the monument with a lion's body and a human head, built by the Pharaoh Chephren about 2,600 B.C. Hosni said the Sphinx was in a critical condition and needed an international panel of archaeologists to save it from disintegration. Kadri reported: "The Sphinx is facing no danger at all. What fell was not a slab but an outer coating. This is a theatrical farce." But Zahi Hawass, an archaeologist in charge of the pyramids area, warned that the Sphinx could be reduced to powder within 20 years without urgent scientific measures to restore it. He said the high water level beneath the limestone monument had to be reduced. "Maybe we will not find the Sphinx in the coming 20 years, if we do not do this type of scientific study... We know that water changes limestone to powder," he said in an interview with the International Television Network VIS-NEWS.

Professor says Palestinian story not told

CHICAGO (AP) — A Northwestern University professor who has lived with Palestinian refugees in the Gaza Strip said Monday he wants to dispel the "mad-dog terrorists" image they have among many Westerners. "They are the most hospitable, gracious and courteous people one could encounter, and I've studied with other cultures," said Dwight Conquergood, an associate professor who specialises in studying refugee cultures. Conquergood visited the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip during the summers of 1986 and 1987 before the current uprising erupted. "The kids throwing rocks have lived all their lives behind barbed wire," said Conquergood, a native of Thunder Bay, Ontario, who grew up on an Indiana farm. "This was my first experience living under military occupation," said Conquergood, an ethnographer who also has studied the refugee cultures of Southeast Asia. "I had a visual understanding of what they had to live with day after day. It was scary."

Chuck Berry honoured at film festival

BERLIN (AP) — Move over Maybeline. Roll over Beethoven. Berlin is hailing rock 'n' roll legend Chuck Berry. "Chuck Berry: Hail Hail Rock 'N' Roll" led the pack of American films that are the centerpiece of this year's Berlin Film Festival. And Berry, regarded by many musicians as the father of rock 'n' roll, was the American star feted first at this year's event. Europe's No. 2 annual cinema extravaganza after the more prestigious Cannes Film Festival. On Sunday, Berry was presented with a life achievement award at the West German Premier of "Hail Hail Rock 'N' Roll," the Taylor Hackford-directed movie that honours him. The Berlinale Camera Award, a gold replica of a camera, was presented to Berry at the premier by Volker Hassemer, West Berlin's senator for cultural affairs. "I don't consider myself a legend," said the 62-year-old Berry. "I always thought a legend was a dead person who is praised."

Man hits \$6.8m jackpot

RENO, Nevada (AP) — A concrete contractor looked uncomfortable Monday amid cameras, microphones and crowds of people waiting for him to accept an oversized copy of a \$6.8-million check for hitting the world's largest slot jackpot. "I don't know what to say," Cammie J. Brewer told a news conference at the Cal-Neva Club in downtown Reno. "I know I have the money now. It feels pretty good." Brewer became an instant multimillionaire Sunday by lining up four "7s" on one of four megabucks progressive slot machines. Brewer, 61, said he comes to the Cal-Neva nearly every Sunday morning to eat the club's 99-cent breakfast and to play the slots.

Brussels court rules on diaper ads

BRUSSELS (R) — A Brussels court ruled Monday that any liquid can be used in television advertisements to demonstrate the virtues of babies' diapers. It rejected a claim by the makers of Pampers disposable napkins that rivals Ultra Pampers were misleading the public by using distilled water — instead of the real thing — in a commercial to show how absorbent their product was. The public had the sense to realise that advertisements were not always a "true reflection of reality," the Brussels commercial tribunal ruled.